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May 25, 2009

The Honorable Edolphus Towns
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to request that your Committee initiate an investigation into the University of Chicago Medical Center's alleged practices of "patient dumping." As an institution that receives federal funds, I am concerned about recent media reports that allege that the medical center is turning away and refusing treatment to low-income, uninsured patients.

Patient dumping has been a widespread problem across many of the nation's medical centers and hospitals, and Congress has a duty to expend its power to mitigate and prevent this despicable practice from continuing in centers that receive federal funds. The pervasive impact of patient dumping are felt especially in more recent times, when so many Americans suffer under extreme economic hardship and diminishing access to healthcare.

I thank you for your time and attention to this matter, and I look forward to working more with your Committee if there is anything I can do to assist this process. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my Legislative Director, Christopher Brown, at 5-4372 or by email at cmbrown@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bobby L. Rush".

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress